Pacific Coast Steamer Plying Between

Seattle and Dyea.

HER PASSENGERS WERE ALL SAVED

but Will Be Saved.

steamship Corona of the Pacific Coast

Dyea, Alaska, was wrecked January 21 in

The passengers were taken to Lewis

The 300-ton freight steamer Coquitlam is

n.eager account of the disaster has been

received through dispatches filed at De-

parture Bay by the steamer Danube,

which, on its return voyage from Linn

caral, fell in with the Corona and Coquit-

lam. The Coquitlam is owned by the Union

Transit Co. of Vancouver. The Corona,

which was considered one of the finest

boats on the Alaska run, was in command

of Capt. Pearce and had two pilots, Thomp-

son and Coffman, whose experience on the route would make their presence on the steamship almost a guarantee of safety.

History of the Boat.

The Corona came to Seattle September

from San Francisco to take the place of

the Mexico, lost the previous month in

Dixon Entrance. Since November 6 the

Corona had made five round-trip voyages

to the head of Linn canal, and was on its

sixth trip north when lost. It was built in Philadelphia in 1888 at a cost of \$200,000. It was insured for \$120,000.

seventy-seven second-class.
Its freight amounted to about 700 tons.

Among the passengers was a party of six from San Jose, Cal., led by John Stan-ley and Al Ehrman. They were going north under contract to build a wharf and

warehouse in Skaguay. As a side issue the six shipped a regular cutter sleigh and about thirty smaller sleds for use in

transporting freight and passengers over the Skaguay road. The party had sixty mules in San Francisco for shipment to

Skaguay as soon as the transportation

Printing Press Lost.

A most complete printing outfit was

aboard the Corona, shipped to Dyea. It

belonged to E. W. Poilock, formerly of

Mount Vernon, Washington, who intended

the Corona. They intended to local

figured on reaching there in March,

gers were bound for the mines.

the new town site called Goldike.

G. Wilson left on the Corona, intending to push into Dawson without delay. He

after spending a couple of weeks, to start en the return trip. He had engaged In-

dian guides and owned a number of dogs.

Several others about the Corona intended starting at once for Klondike. It is es-timated that three-fourths of the passen-

CITY OF GLOUCESTER DAMAGED.

Atlantic Coast Steamer Stranded in

Boston Harbor.

BOSTON, Mass., January 29.-The steam-

er City of Gloucester, Capt Ober, while on

her regular trip from Gloucester to this

city this morning, struck on the Graves

and was badly damaged. A big hole was

punched in the vessel's bottom, the shock

throwing her clear off the rocks so that

she floated in deep water. The water pour-

ed through the hole in torrents, and as

Capt. Ober saw that the steamer was in

canger of sinking he ran her on the beach

The tug Wesley A. Gove sighted the

Capt. Oher and the two passen-ch the steamer carried were taken

steamer ashore and hastened to her as-

aboard the tug and brought up to the city.

An effort will be made to patch up the versel so that she can be towed to this city, where a survey will be made.

VIZCAYA STARTS FOR HAVANA.

Spanish Cruiser Which is Expected to

CARTHAGENA, Spain, January 29.-The

first-class armored cruiser Vizcaya is

starting for America. The rest of the

Spanish squadron is preparing to sail for

The ironclad Cristobal Colon (formerly

Giuseppe Garibaldi II) wili accompany the

PROSPERITY IN DAKOTA.

Mr. Milton Presents a Favorable Out-

look for the Year.

Mr. Samuel B. Milton, editor and pro-

leave next week for his home in the west.

Mr. Milton was called here by the death of

his mother several weeks ago. In reply to

inquiries about the condition of affairs in

South Dakota, Mr. Milton says that the

producing classes are prospering under a

marked improvement in prices for the

staple products of that commonwealth. The

cattle and sheep industries are growing

larger and more remunerative each year,

and the farmers are generally prosperous

McKinley is shown, he says, in the very

migration to South Dakota and a greater

state during the present year. Mr. Milton

is a former Washington boy, a graduate of The Evening Star office, and has many

friends here in his old home who will b

gratified over his successes in the far west

Mishap to the Porter. A telegram received at the Navy Depart

ment from Mobile today announced that

the torpedo boat Porter had broken one of

the struts that hold up the end of the pro-

peller shafts. The boat was in dock when

the fact was discovered, and it is not

strut can be secured from the builders, the Herreshoffs, at Bristoi, R. I., and put

large number of released mortgages fil

in the various counties of the

advance along all industrial

Havana.

torpedo flotilla later.

Visit Our Ports.

at Lovell's Island Boston harbor.

Island, where they now are.

THE CORONA IS LOST

Rescue Effected in Teeth of a Gale by the North German's

Life Bont. Steamer Coquitlam is Stranded, NEW YORK. January 29.-The North

German Lloyd steamer Aller, which arrived today from Bremen and Southampton brought the captain and twenty-four of the crew of the British tramp steamer SURVIVORS AT LEWIS ISLAND Dago of Sunderland, who were taken off that vessel at sea while she was in a sinking condition SEATTLE, Wash., January 29 .- The

The Dago left Leith December 31 for Baltimore in ballast. On January 8 the Steamship Co., plying between Seattle and main steam pipe burst and the machinery became disabled. The steamer fell off in Grenville sound, off Kennedy Island. The the trough of the sea and rolled about in passengers were all saved, but the vessel the heavy swell. For twelve days the and cargo are understood to be a total loss, unfortunate craft lay in this condition.

The bulkheads were burst in by the terrific pitching and tossing of the vessel. The coal fell through into the en-gine room and choked the pumps and shaft alley. The vessel became leaky and stranded, but is probably safe. Only a the water was soon level with the engine On January 27, in latitude 42.02, longi-

tude 61.24, the Aller hove in sight and soon bore down to the sinking vessel. A strong breeze prevailed at the time, with a very ugly, confused sea, and the Dago careened over to an angle of forty-five de-grees, rendering it extremely difficult to lower a boat. However, the Aller launched one of her large life boats, in which, during five hours, three trips were made to the sinking craft and the whole crew taken off, the Dago being abandoned to her fate. She probably sank within eight or ten

The Dago was sighted on January 22, in The Dago was sighted on January 22, in latitude 44.16, longitude 55.35, by the Atlantic Transport Line steamer Manitoba, from London for this port, the captain of which stated that the weather was too stormy to handle the disabled craft and tow her to port, and offered to take off the crew, who at that time refused to changle their vessel. abandon their vessel.

MAY LEAVE HAVANA SOON.

The Maine Likely to Be Relieved Within a Fortnight.

The Corona sailed from Seattle on January 20 for Dyea and Skaguay. It had accommedations for 225 passengers, 130 being first-class, and all its berths were sold from Puget Sound ports. In Seattle alone were sold seventy-five first-class and seventy-seven second-class It is said at the Navy Department that it is not strictly accurate to say that the battle ship Maine will be ordered to New Orleans in time to participate in the Mardi Gras festivities of the 21st and 22d proximo. The department has promised to have one or more warships at New Orleans on that occasion, but so far has not decided which to send. It is not at all improbable, however, that the Maine may eventually be selected for this duty, as there is no intention to keep her at Havana for any great length of time, as the sanitary conditions of the port make a prolonged stay undesirable, to say the least, and un-der present conditions the crew is denied the full measure of exerc'se necessary to their health and comfort. The privileges of shore liberty are curtailed while she Mount Vernon, Washington, who intended to issue in Dyea the only daily newspaper in Alaska. The cylinder press was the largest yet taken north.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Foster and Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Thayer sailed for Fort Wrangle on the Corona. They intended to locate on within the next two weeks, in which case she would be available for the New Or-leans assignment. She will be replaced by ar other warship, probably the cruis

The following communication hearing or partment today

By Order of the King Navy Department, Admiral of the Port. Capital City of New Orleans, Mr. John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy,

Washington, D. C.: Dear Sir: Your valued favor of the 15th was received in due time and immediately referred to the officers of the carnival court, and the contents have given grea satisfaction, and your intention of sending one or more naval ships here to participate in the Mardi Gras festivities on the 21st and 22d proximo has met with universal commendation from our whole business community and commercial exchanges I is hoped, however, that you will not make the limit to sending one ship, providing the exigencies of the service will not interfere with sending more. We would particularly favor a visit from the Maine, as one of the ships, as both ship and her commander Captain Sigsbee, would receive a cordial welcome here.

The earl marshal of the realm instructs

me to extend you and your staff of gallant tars a cordial invitation to be present on the reception of his gracious majesty Feb-ruary 21, 1898. Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant, THOMAS J. WOODWARD.

TREASURY PROMOTIONS.

Official Announcement of Recen Clerical Changes. The Treasury Department announces the following promotions:

Office of the auditor for the Post Office Department-R. J. F. Allen, West Virginia, \$1,400 to \$1,600; Wm. H. Scholz, Wisconsin, \$1,400 to \$1,600; Chas. E. Crowell, Maine, \$1,200 to \$1,400; H. K. Van Buskirk, New Yerk, \$1,200 to \$1,400; Wm. K. Price, North Carolina, \$1,000 to \$1,200; Jas. E. Beller. New York, \$900 to \$1,000; Wm. Heffron, In-diana, \$660 to \$720; John L. Knopp, Louis iana, \$1,000 to \$1,200.

Office of the auditor for the Treasury De partment—Wm. B. Lynch, Florida, \$1,200 to \$1,400; Mrs. E. C. Dallas, Colorado, \$1,000 to \$1,200; Miss Mary Durham, Iowa, \$300 prietor of the Redfield, S. D., Journal-Ob-Office of the auditor for the War Depart-

server, who is visiting Washington, will ment-Jos. L. Underwood, Tennes to \$1,200; John H. Ellis, Arkansas, \$900 to Benjamin E. Tilton of Wisconsin

been appointed to a \$100 position in the coast survey, and Samuel C. Holmes of Kansas has been reinstated to a \$720 position in the office of the auditor for the Post Office Department.

MRS. ROBERTS' CASE.

Likely to Be Considered by the Senate Civil Service Committee. and happy through these interests and diversified farming. A conspicuous index of the improved times since the election of The case of Mrs. M. E. Roberts, who was removed from the pension office last May, will be considered by the Senate committee on civil service and retrenchment at its next the general feeling of content and confiregular meeting, which will probably he dence. Many inquiries are being received from prospective immigrants and investors in other states as to farming lands, which certainly portend, he thinks, increased imheld next Tuesday. The committee has taken no action in the matter except to call upon the Secretary of the Interior for all charges against Mrs. Roberts, which were the basis of her removal. Under the au thority of the Allen resolution adopted by the Senate, it is doubtful whether the com-mittee will feel justified to do more than

THE NAIAD IN POSITION.

Putting Up the Bronze Group in the Library Fountain. Superintendent Green of the Congression al Library building has placed in position the last of the three figures comprising the bronze group in the fountain in front

of the library building.

The figure is a naiad riding a sea horse, and is of the same gigantic proportions as the other figures of the group.

The bronze door for the west entrance of the building has also arrived and will be placed in position immediately. known when the break occurred. The boat will have to remain at Mobile until a new strut can be secured from the builders,

ALLER SAVES DAGO'S CREW INQUIRY CONTINUES

Latter Vessel Was Disabled in a Gale and Resumption of the Civil Service Investigation.

SESSION OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Classification Made by Heads of Departments.

MR. PROCTER TESTIFIES

The Senate committee on civil service and retrenchment resumed its investigation ino the methods of enforcing the civil service law this morning in the committee room in the Malthy building. Senator Pritchard chairman, and Senator Lodge were pres-

Will H. Lyon of Bellevue, Campbell county, Ky., was the first witness examined. Mr. Lyon stated that he is the secretary of Senator Deboe. For twenty months he had been a gauger in the internal revenue service, and he remained there until he resigned to become a candidate for the legislature, to which he was elected. He took a civil service examination at Covington, Ky., for the position of gauger, and although he had been a successful gauger for twenty months, he failed to pass the civil service examination, which, he claimed, was not practical. He had been mark ed down, he said, for failing to answer requirements which did not exist in the serv ice for which the examination was held. He was, he said, marked down to 10 per cent for failure to make an exact copy of a plainly written letter because he changed

he punctuattion. In reply to questions by Senator Lodge Commissioner Procter said the examina-tion for gauger had been dictated by the internal revenue bureau and was expected to secure candidates who would possess just the requirements that were necessary

in doing their work. The Internal Revenue Service.

Commissioner Procter then went on the stand and continued his testimony regarding the application of the civil service rules to the internal revenue service. He quoted from government officials to show that prior to the days of civil service reform the work of collecting the revenues was very expensive. He referred to the whisky frauds, which he said had caused the government a loss of \$75,000,000. Mr. Procter said that collectors of internal revenue had told him that they had been forced to ap-

point incompetent men as their deputies because of the pressure brought upon them. Mr. Pritchard asked Mr. Procter whether the commissioner of internal revenue was not now of the opinion that deputy collectors should be exempted from exam-Senator Pritchard—Does he not say it is almost impossible to execute the law ow-

ing to the fact that they are hampered by the civil service law?

Mr. Procter-We understand there is no difficulty in executing the law except where, the appointing officer wishes to get his own men, regardless of the rules. Senator Pritchard-But that is not an-

swering my question. Does the collector he finds great difficulty in execut ing the law because he is hampered by service rules? r. Procter--I think he does so claim. Mr. Procter-I think he does so claim.
This comes from the fact that the new collectors being of opposite politics from they wish a change in the com-

plexion of the force.

Mr. Procter said when the internal revenue force was classified, December 12, 1894, the commissioner at the head of it approved of the action and believed it would greatly benefit the service. Speaking of the classification of watchmen and messengers in the departments Mr. Procter said that prior to that classi-fication many women had been employed as watchmen and messengers, although

they never did such work. Government Printing Office.

Referring to the classification of the employes of the government printing office, Mr. Procter said the necessity for divorc ing that office from the spoils system had been shown many years before the action was taken. He quoted utterances of senators, representatives and government officials advocating taking that office out of the spoils system at various times since 1800. He quoted Senator Gallinger to the effect that the government printing office was merely a big work shop and no place for politics, and that "political considerations should have no influence whatever in the matter of appointments and dismissals" n that branch of the government."

Mr. Procter also referred to the acts of trades unlons which had sought to place the government printing office in the classified service. He thought the time of classiying the employes of the government printing office was as good a time as could have been selected.

In reply to questions, Mr. Procter said

that so far as he could judge from the testimony of printers and others when Mr. Palmer became public printer last spring about 45 per cent of the employes there were republicans and 55 per cent were dem-ocrats. He did not think the statement was correct that of the 3,000 persons em-ployed there at that time 2,500 were democrats. He understood that in making up that estimate all the women were counted

Mr. Pritchard asked if the rule for giving each state its quota of appointments had been followed in the government printing office. Mr. Procter said that had not been done, but he thought it should be, and the com mission should equalize the quota of vari

ous states as far as possible. Classifying the Employes.

Senator Lodge read the list of "skilled laborers" classified in the government printing office, and asked Mr. Procter whether he thought assistant doorkeepers and floor helpers could be called skilled laborers.

Mr. Procter said that was not a question the commission could decide.

Mr. Lodge—Who makes the classifica-

Mr. Procter—The head of the depart-nient, under the order of the President, and the commission simply accepts the classification as made. Mr. Lodge-Is the commission bound to Mr. Procter-Unless a violation of law is

shown, and then it would be the duty of the commission to call the attention of the President to such violation.

When further questioned, Mr. Procter said he thought possibly some of the places in the government printing office were not properly classified as "skilled laborers." Senator Lodge said he thought it was very apparent that such was the case. Senator Lodge asked the witness a number of questions regarding the classification of the public service generally.

Mr. Procter said the average age of appointers under the cityl service levels.

pointees under the civil service law has been between twenty-eight and twenty-

"Those boys have been out of school some time," remarked Senator Lodge, referring to the charge that the civil service law secures only school boys for the public ser-Senator Lodge asked if many ap Senator Lodge asked if many appointees were dropped after the probationary period. Mr. Procter replied that in one year only twelve men appointed to the railway mail service were rejected after the probationary period, and that service was conducted

under the most rigid rules of any service of the government.

Senator Lodge asked Mr. Procter questions which brought out the fact that of the 31,372 employes of the government placed in the classified service by President Cleveland's order of May 6, 1896, the larger part were in services that could not be considered political. Senator Lodge estimated that only 13,496 of these places could be considered political at the time of their classification, while Mr. Procter thought that but \$,051 of them could be so considered. Mr. Procter had placed the light house and life-saving service employes in the list of non-political places, included in the classified service by the order of May 6, and Mr. Lodge remarked that he thought they could properly be so regarded.

The committee adjustment at 1:10 clears.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1898-TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

marked that he thought they could properly be so regarded.

The committee adjourned at 1:10 o'clock to meet again Tuesday morning, when Mr. Procter will continue his testimony.

The President Congratulated on His New York Address.

Discussing Kentucky Offices-Ex-Representative Bowden to Be Collector at Norfolk.

The cold from which the President was suffering when in New York is much better. The President is fifty-five years old

Since his return to the city yesterday afternoon he has been flooded with telegrams and letters of congratulation on his New York speech. These congratulations come from every portion of the country, the Pacific coast furnishing as many as any other section. Republican leaders who called during the day at the White House also congratulated the President, included Senators Allison, Fairbanks, Davis and Elkins and Representative Dingley. Senator Fairbanks, whose reputation for standing close to the President is known, spent some time with the chief executive. Mr. Fairbanks thinks the speech was timely and wise.

The Kentucky Offices.

Kentuckians called in large numbers at the White House today. One of them said: "We are all here," which could not be disputed from the number who trooped up the steps. Senator Deboe, Representative Davison, ex-Representative John O. Lewis, Samuel J. Roberts and Leslie Combs were among the number. They were not all of the same party, however, as the interests of some are antagonistic. Senator Deboe's candidate for collector of the port of Louisville, Mr. Barnett, is still being vigorously opposed. The President is now engaged in hearing the opposition. It is understood that the President will decide the collector-

ship Monday or a day or so later.
At the same time, he will make a nom-At the same time, he will make a nomination for pension agent at Louisville. Senator Deboe has recommended Leslig-Combs for the pension agency. It is not believed that either Mr. Barnett or Mr. Combs will be laid aside. Every recommendation of Senator Deboe up to this time has gone through, and unless he wavers in his advocacy of Mr. Barnett there will be no hitch this time. no hitch this time.

The President will also take up several Kentucky post offices. Ex-Representative Lewis is said to be working for B. T. Con-

way as postmaster at Lebanon, while Sen-ator Deboe is said to have indorsed Charles Williams.

Representative Gibson of Tennessee roduced Colonel Whitney to the President Colonel Whitney is the republican who ran for Congress against Representative Mc-Millin in the last campaign. He wants John W. Overall made marshal of the middle district of Tennessee. Mr. Overail is said to be a formidable candidate for the position.

Place for Ex-Representative Bowden George E. Bowden, the national commiteeman from Virginia, is to be nominated as collector of the port of Norfolk, a position which pays a good salary. This place was selected by Mr. Bowden himself. Senator Elkins and Representatives Miller and Dayton had a talk with the President regarding the Parkersburg, W. Va., post office. They have agreed on Ed. McCreery for the position, and he will be nominated.

Excursionists From Maine. About 120 excursionists from Maine visited the White House this morning. By request of Senator Frye, the President reeived them in the east room, shaking

hands with each caller. President Dole to Be Present.

The arrangements were completed today for the presence of President and Mrs. Dole of Hawaii at the second reception of President McKinley, Wednesday night. Next to President McKinley, President Dole will be the center of attraction at the reception. The demand for invitations to this reception promises to exceed the demand to the hundreds of people.

President and Mrs. Dole will stand beside

President and Mrs. McKinley. The officials who presented the guests to President and Mrs. McKinley at the last reception will and Lieutenant Phelps will make the presentations to the president of the Hawalian republic and his wife. The honor to be ac-corded the visitors is the most unusual in the history of the country, and wi preciated by them and the public. of the country, and will be ap-

To Start the Jubilee. At 11 o'clock tonight the President will touch the button which will start the machinery of the Jubilee Mining Fair in California. The fair is the outcome of the celebration during the past week of the fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of gold in California. The California delegation in Congress will be present tonight and wit-

The President has signed the urgent de ciency bill passed by Congress.

ARMY AND NAVE

Miscellaneous Notes About the United The Secretary of the Newy received a telram today announcing that the cruiser Raleigh has sailed from Colombo for Sin-

gapere, on her way to China. Commander Charles T. Hutchins of the Saratoga registered at the Navy Department today. He is here on leave of ab-

Lieut. Harry S. Knape of the United States Naval Academy is at the Raleigh. Passed Assistant Engineer Braderick C. Bleg is stopping at 1763 Madison street. Capt. George H. Roach, 17th Infantry, registered at the War Department today. He is at the Ebbitt. registered at the War Department today. He is at the Ebbitt.

Commander A. S. Snow has been detached as inspector of the third light house district, and crdered to the Portsmouth navy yard. Lieut. N. J. K. Patch has been ordered

Lieut. N. J. K. Patch has been ordered to the office of the fish commissioner.

Lieut. Com. C. C. Cornwell, to be assistant to inspector of the seventh light house district, March I, and to be inspector in charge about April I.

Lieut. V. L. Cottman has been detached from the Monterey and ordered to the Alart.

Passed Assistant Surgeon B. R. Ward has been ordered home to walt orders.

Chief Engineer A. Kirby has been ordered to Washington navy yard for examination for promotios.

Passed Assistant Burgeon L. H. Stone has been ordered to take examination for retirement and then to await orders.

OPERA BOUFFE WAR IN A RETRENCHING MOOD

That's What the Cuban Struggle Has Been Called.

IT DESCRIBES AUTONOMY GOVERNMENT

How Rigidly the Censorship of the Press is Observed.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE DE LOME AN EDITOR

(Copyright, 1898, by Charles M. Pepper.) HAVANA, January 26, 1898.

Cuba's struggle has been called opera bouffe war. It has not been such to the Spanish soldiers, who have died by the tens of thousands; to the country people. who have been starved to death by the hundreds of thousands, or to the insurgents, who have endured the hardships of the field. But, while the designation does not fit the irregular combat of arms, it is not out of place in describing something else that obtains in Cuba. This is the government under autonomy. It is opera bouffe government. The staging of the comic opera is the only thing lacking to make it real.

When the autonomist decrees were put forth by the Sagasta ministry some hardheaded persons did not pay much attention to their wording. Such people thought that the ability to copy on paper the colonial system of Canada or of other countries was not the real test of the new colonial policy. They believed the administration in practice would be a better test whether the Spanish authorities themselves had a genuine understanding of what constitutes liberal political institutions. Cuba under autonomy would be the

According to official decrees, Cuba is under autonomy, and autonomy means broad political rights, a reasonable liberty of speech and press, and, above ali, home rule. The first test which would be applied by a statesman from abroad or a student of history would be the discussion and criticism which is permitted of government and of measures. He would be able to apply neither criterion here. There is neither open discussion nor criticism. According to the Spanish idea, it would endanger autonomy to let the people talk too much about it. The press censorship is more rigid than that which was enforced during the height of Weyler's despotism. When the army officers placed themselves in rebellion because the newspapers had begun to criticise gross military abuses the first thing the Sagasta ministry in Spain did was to pass regulations further limiting the restricted freedom of the press and making specific provision against "reflections" on the army.

Power of the General Staff. to repression. The autonomist cabinet in Cuba might have taken some action which would have seemed high-handed to Americans, yet which would not have appeared unusual to Spaniards. Instead of the local authorities taking the measures for muzzling public opinion this was done by the captain general. It was Blanco acting un der direction from Madrid, who revived Weyler's decree. It is Blanco whose name is signed to the supplementary decree which from its nature reduces the Havana newspapers to last year's almanacs. It is the general staff of the army with which the censorship of both the press and the cable rests. Under home rule the natural supposition would be that the autonomist cabinet would have something to say in these matters. The members of that body were pushed aside. Their functions consist mainly in issuing manifestoes.

The general staff of the army is overworked with its fresh labors. For three years the staff has been charged with the responsibility of suppressing the insurrection on paper. The official reports of army operations are issued by it. I believe there was a general in Europe once who never won a battle, yet who in the end prevailed over the enemy. The circumstances are reversed here. In three years the general staff has not lost a battle, even in skirmish, for the troops of Spain. The insurgents may finally prevail, but the staff will have kept its record clear .. It has already killed more than 60,000 of the enemy on paper, though neither Weyler no Blanco has admitted the existence of 25,000

insurgents.

In all the official reports a consistent ra for every Spanish soldier who may be num pered with the dead. Once the ratio fell t 1, but the balance was quickly restored. There are some fine young officer in the general staff, courteous and a ble. I fancy they would rather be field. Their new duties confuse They have had no experience in editing newspapers, and they lack the instinct for successfully censuring cablegrams which relate to news other than that of military perations. So they usually draw "ell lap oja," the red pencil-it is red instead blue in Cuba-through the entire dispatch With the local papers, when in doubt, they ensure the whole article. In consequence the Havana journals frequently appear with their columns blank or with lon scientific articles about the inhabitants of of stirring events these subjects are heavy

Perhaps a better idea of the understand ing which the Spanish government has of what constitutes the liberal regimen of au-tonomy can be had from reading the de-cree itself. I give it herewith:

Decree. Don Ranco Blanco and Erenos, marque of Pena Plata, captain-general of the army and general-in-chief of this island, etc. In order to avoid conflicts such as these days have witnessed to the inhabitants of this city, using the faculties which the law confers on me, ordered and command-

ed:

Article 1—From the publication of this decree in the Gazette of Havana and the official bulletins of the provinces, is prohibited the publication of every class of periodicals, circulars or telegrams or pamphlets without the proofs having been previously authorized by the general staff of this army for those which are published in Havana and outside of it by the staff of the division or brigade where it may be and where there is no military authority at the place of publication, for which purpose the proofs shall be presented two hours in advance of publication.

Article 2—The general administration of

hours in advance of publication.

Article 2—The general administration of communication (post office department) shall detain the circulation of all periodicals national and foreign until authorized by the general staff, to which shall be submitted a copy of each periodical.

Article 3—These who violate this law (las intractures) shall be judged and punished

Virginia Legislators Introduce Many Bills to Save State Money.

TWO CENTS.

Sennte Turns Down the Bill to Abolish Flirting-Senator Withers Defended the Art.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star. RICHMOND, Va., January 29.-Five bills ooking to the saving of expenses have been favorably reported by the committee on courts of justice of the senate. It is estimated that if all the bills on retrenchment and reform so far introduced accomplish what their authors claim for them a \$3,-000,000 yearly surplus would be created. The Reddy bill to elect United States sen-

ators by popular vote went to the senate today. The bill giving the United States the right to purchase land in Norfolk county

for naval purposes was passed. Senator Barksdale will follow up his measure to abolish county and district courts and substituting district courts by two companion bills; one will provide for abolishing corporation courts in small towns, making them part of the district jurisdiction, and the other abolishes the office of commonwealth's attorney in favor of district attorneys. Mr. Barksdale says the measure is commended by many people and will save \$300,000 a year to the state.

By a vote of 24 to 9 the Virginia senate today refused to advance to its engross-ment what is known as the McCune anti-flirting bill. This settles its fate. Senator Withers, in an able and eloquent

speech, opposed the measure as frivolous legislation. The effect of it, Mr. Withers said, would be to oppress and terrorize the young men and young ladies, and to give the principals of schools the highest license to terrorize. To abolish coquetry would be to abolish woman, and to abolish woman would be to take all the poetry and beauty out of life.

GRIDIRON CLUB.

Its Flag Flying for the Anniversary Dinner Tonight. The flag of the famous Gridiron Club (a

white gridiren on a black field) was holsted

this morning over the Arlington Hotel, informing all the people that their unique organization, composed of forty newspaper men, will give one of its celebrated dinnertonight. It is the anniversary of the founding of the club, and President Frank H. Hosford will tonight extend a welcome to a most distinguished company of guests. among whom are the following: The president of Hawaii, Hon. Sanford P. Dole; the dent of Hawaii, Hon. Sanferd P. Doie; the German ambassador, Mr. von Holleben; the French ambassador, M. Cambon; the Hawaiian minister, Mr. Hatch; the Japanese minister, Mr. Toru Hoshi; the Chinese minister, Mr. Wu Ting-Fang; the apostolic delegate, Monsignor Martinelli; Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, Rhode Island; Representative John M. Allen, Mississipor; Representative Clifton B. Beach, Obta Mr. Representative Clifton B. Beach, Ohio: Mr. Justice Brewer, Supreme Court of the Unit-ed States; Representative Ferdinant Bruck cr. Michigan: Representative Ferdinant Bruck-cr. Michigan: Representative Joseph G. Cannon, Illinois; George H. Daniels, presi-dent Quaint Club, New York; Chauncey M. Depew, New York city: Representative Nelson Dingley, Maine; H. Clay Evans, Poraker, Ohio; Senator Arthur P. Gorman, Maryland; Representative Charles H. Gros-venor, Ohio; Chairman Mark A. Hanna, republican national committee; David Ben-nett Hill, Albany, N. Y.; Chairman James K. Jones democratic L. Jones, democratic national committee Representative Charles F. Joy, Missouri: Representative George P. Lawrence, Mas achusetts; Senator-elect Louis E. Comas, Maryland; Senator William E. Ma-son, Illinois: Major General Nelson A. Miles, commanding United States army Senator John L. Mitchell, Wisconsin; Senator O. H. Platt, Connecticut; Speaker omas B. Reed, Maine; Senator L. Shoup, Idaho; Durham W. Stevens, counselor Japanese legation; Lorin A. Thurston, Hawaii; Frank A. Vanderlip, as-George Istant secretary of the treasury; Senator Francis E. Warren, Wyoming; John Rusell Young, librarian of Congress.

WIDOW'S PENSION CLAIM REJECTED She Was Not Without Other Means of Support.

Among the pension decisions rendered today by Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the interior, was a case of considerable importance affecting the right to pension widows under the act of June 27, 1890. The claim is that of Luella M., widow of Nathan A. Sisson, late sergeant, Company A, 2d Rhode Island Volunteer Infantry. In his decision the assistant secretary says:

"This appellant filed in the pension bureau on November 23, 1896, an application for pension under the provisions of section 3, of the act of June 27, 1890, as the widow of said deceased soldier, alleging his leath on September 10, 1896, leaving her without other means of support than her daily labor, which was rejected on March 31, 1897, upon the ground that she without other means of support as alleged. From said action appeal was taken on July

"It appears from the statements, under oath,, of this appellant herself, that she is possessed of, and owns in her own right, real and personal property worth, at a cash valuation over and above all debts and incumbrances, \$9,000, from which she derives an annual income of \$622. "It is manifest from the foregoing that

this appellant is not without other means of support than her daily labor, within the meaning and intent of the provisions of section 3, act of June 27, 1890, as construed by the decisions of this department, and is not entitled to pension thereunder as the widow of said deceased soldi refore, the rejection of this claim

upon the ground stated was not error, and s affirmed accordingly.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt has turned from Boston, where he made an acdress before the students of Harvard College. Assistant Secretary Cridler has returned

from a short visit to New York. Lieutenant Commander Taussig, U. S. N. has moved to 1735 17th street. Father Searle, who was, until a year ago, a professor at the Catholic University, has been appointed director of the Vatican ob-

Mr. George E. Roberts, who was recently appointed director of the mint in place of Mr. Preston, resigned, is expected to take charge of his office about February 10. Mrs. Fannie B. Ward, the newspaper correspondent, has left for Cuba. She goes by rail through Florida, and will sail from Key West. She represents western newspapers.

Commissioner Wright Honored. Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor

is in receipt of a cablegram announcing of France. He has also been informed that he hes been elected an honorary member of the Imperial Academy of Science of Russia, the highest scientific distinction that can be awarded in that country.

Secretary Alger's Condition. Although he passed a restless night, about the same. He will be taken to the

or exchange anything, lease property or rent rooms, want a situation or want help, it will pay you to announce the fact in the advertising columns of The Star. They are closely studied by more than three times as many people as read any other paper.

If you want to buy, sell

THE DISTRICT BILL

It is Taken Up by the House of Representatives.

POLITICAL SPEECHES CONSUME TIME

Comparatively Little Attention Given Local Matters.

DEBATE UNRESTRICTED

The District appropriation bill was taken up in the House in committee of the whole for consideration today, with Mr. Grout is

Mr. Brundage of Arkansas secured the floor and proceeded to make a speech on general politics. He was followed by Mr. Wheeler of Alabama and Mr. Gaines of Tennessee, who also made political speeches.

The reading of the appropriation bill was then commenced. It had not proceeded far, however, before Mr. Meyers of Indiana took the floor to make an earnest appeal for Cubs. When he concluded the

bill was taken up again. Mr. Grout offered a committee amend-ment authorizing the Commissioners to spend \$500 upon experimental lamps on onnecticut avenue, Farragut Square and

Lafayette Park,
Mr. Richardson of Tennessee made a point of order against the amendment that it was new legislation. The point of order was overruled and the amendment adopted.

Electric Lighting. Mr. Pitney offered an amendment to the paragraph relating to electric lighting, which authorized an additional expenditure of \$6,000 for extension of the conduits for the arc lights along lines approved by the District Commissioners. Mr. Richardson made a point of order against the amendment, but Mr. Pitney having explained that the extensions were only for connecticute between existing con tulus and that they were based on the recommendation of the Commissioners, Mr. Richardson withdrew the point of order and the amend-

nent was adopted. Mr. Ridgley raised objection to the laying aside of street-sweeping machines in order to give employment to labor by hand sweep-ing. He thought that the machines should

e used to their full capacity. Mr. Grout said that the sweeping machines were used wherever there was no special condition which rendered it destrable to resert chiefly to the hand work Mr. Richardson made a point of order against the section providing that any balance remaining of the appropriation to-ward adepting the inner basin on the Po-tomac flats for a public bathing good of last year, be applied by the District Com-missioners for examination, improvement, tepair and care of the public bathing beach at the tidal reservoir. at the tidal reservoir.

The chair overruled the point of order, and the paragraph stood.

Talking Politics. Mr. King of Utah said that he desired to call attention to a serious omission from the bill, namely, an appropriation for the gentlemen reminded him that this bill was not the place for such an appropriation, but Mr. King insisted upon speaking to the point in apparent seriousness, until it de-veloped by his remarks that he referred to

He then proceeded to make a political speech, being followed by Mr. Simpson of Kansas in an attack upon the President's nancial policy. Several gentiemen followed him in political speeches, taking for their topics silver

TRADE WITH SPAIN AND CUBA. Awaiting a Representative of the

Antonomous Government. The negotiations for treaties of reciprecity between the United States and Spain and her West Indian colonies are the outcome of the systematic effor: made by the State Department soon after the passage of the present tariff act to give effect to that section of the act which requested the President to invite proposals for such arrangements as early as miglibe. A circular of instructions was address ed to United States ambassadors and min isters abroad directing them to call the attention of the governments to which they were accredited to this prevision of the tariff act, and to intimate the readiness of our government to begin negotiations. It was in reply to such representations that

Spanish government has begun the

negotiations looking to the conclusion of

So far these negotiations have not touched the details of the tariff schedule and both governments are now waiting the arrival in Washington of a representative of the autonomous Cuban government. delegate has been already elected, but it is not deemed well, at this time, to disclose his identity. He will be an expert in the complexities of the Cuban tariff, and, availing of his services, the Spanish mirister here will pursue a course precisely like tha followed by Great Britain in the negotiations of reciprocity treaties with the ed States where her colonies are involved In fact, the British negotiations for treatand the British colonies in the West In dies and in South America, which have been initiated by the British ambassador here, are now in abeyance for the reason that the colonial experts who are to assist that the colonial experts who are to assist Sir Julian in the technical part of the work in drawing up the treatles have not yet reached Washington. So far as can be learned, the new Spanish treaty will be similar in terms and scope to the treatles which were nullified by the Wilson act, though, of course, the details are subject to changes in business conditions. It is to changes in business conditions. It is stated positively that the United States will not be committed in any manner to a maintenance of the Spanish government in Cuba by this arrangement and that the treaty will be confined strictly to the line of ordinary trade treaties.

THE FORTIFICATIONS BILL.

Estimates by the War Department

Greatly Scaled. The fortifications appropriation bill proriding for the extensive system of seacoast lefenses, now in course of completion, was reported to the House today. It carries \$4,144,912, as against estimates made by the War Department of \$13,378,571. The amounts allowed by the bill for the main items are as follows:

Gun and mortar batteries, \$1,000,000; sites

for fortifications, \$300,000; preservation and repair of fortifications, \$75,000; plans for fortifications, \$5,000; sea walls and embankments, \$30,000; torpedoes for harbor defense, \$150,000; armament of fortifica-tions, \$2,033,777; field guns and other mistions, \$2,033,777; field guns and other mis-cellaneous items, \$28,235; proving ground, Sandy Hook, N. J., \$46,000; Watertown arsenal, Mass., \$50,900; Watervliet arsenal, New York, \$28,000; ordnance and fortifica-tion board, \$100,0000. Total, \$4,144,912. In the detailed items for armament are 280,000 for large coast defense guns; \$424.-000 for gun carriages, \$182,720 for breech-loading mortars, \$391,000 for a reserve sup-ply of powder and projectiles, \$208,000 for rapid-fire guns. Provision is made that the armament shall be of American make, ex-cept when it is to the manifest interest of the government to purchase limited quan-tities abroad.